

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/EP 99/01778

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 A61B19/00 A61B17/17

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	EP 0 603 089 A (UNIV JOSEPH FOURIER) 22 June 1994 (1994-06-22) cited in the application column 3, line 41 - line 47 column 4, line 5 - line 15 column 4, line 32 - line 44; figure 1 ---	1, 2, 4-6
Y	US 5 817 022 A (VESELY IVAN) 6 October 1998 (1998-10-06) column 4, line 25 - line 35 column 6, line 8 - line 18 column 7, line 7 - line 26; figure 4 ---	1, 2, 4-6
A	US 5 682 886 A (WONG ARTHUR Y ET AL) 4 November 1997 (1997-11-04) column 8, line 32 - line 39 column 15, line 18 - line 21 column 16, line 21 - line 25 ---	1, 5-7
-/--		

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

17 November 1999

Date of mailing of the international search report

25/11/1999

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Mayer, E

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/EP 99/01778

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 810 008 A (HALL CHARLES RYAN ET AL) 22 September 1998 (1998-09-22) column 4, line 10 - line 20; figure 1 -----	1,3,4
A	WO 97 29679 A (BEN HAIM SHLOMO ;BIOSENSE INC (US)) 21 August 1997 (1997-08-21) page 11, line 3 - line 10; figure 1 -----	1,3

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP 99/01778

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 8-14  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  
Rule 39.1 (iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery.
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PC1/EP 99/01778

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0603089	A	22-06-1994	FR 2699271 A	17-06-1994
			AT 167380 T	15-07-1998
			DE 69319212 D	23-07-1998
			DE 69319212 T	19-11-1998
			ES 2119879 T	16-10-1998
			JP 7000415 A	06-01-1995
			US 5564437 A	15-10-1996
US 5817022	A	06-10-1998	US 5515853 A	14-05-1996
			AU 6416898 A	29-09-1998
			WO 9840760 A	17-09-1998
			AU 5140496 A	23-10-1996
			CA 2215508 A	10-10-1996
			WO 9631753 A	10-10-1996
			EP 0879426 A	25-11-1998
			JP 11503629 T	30-03-1999
			US 5830144 A	03-11-1998
			US 5797849 A	25-08-1998
			US 5795298 A	18-08-1998
			US 5868673 A	09-02-1999
			US 5779638 A	14-07-1998
US 5682886	A	04-11-1997	AU 1688797 A	17-07-1997
			WO 9723172 A	03-07-1997
			US 5871018 A	16-02-1999
US 5810008	A	22-09-1998	AU 5113098 A	29-06-1998
			WO 9825159 A	11-06-1998
			EP 0946886 A	06-10-1999
			US 5957844 A	28-09-1999
WO 9729679	A	21-08-1997	AU 1616897 A	02-09-1997
			AU 1731597 A	02-09-1997
			AU 2131497 A	02-09-1997
			EP 0883375 A	16-12-1998
			EP 0910278 A	28-04-1999
			WO 9729682 A	21-08-1997
			WO 9729684 A	21-08-1997
			AU 709081 B	19-08-1999
			AU 1958997 A	02-09-1997
			AU 2275597 A	02-09-1997
			AU 4218397 A	14-04-1998
			CA 2237992 A	26-03-1998
			EP 0910299 A	28-04-1999
			EP 0910300 A	28-04-1999
			EP 0926997 A	07-07-1999
			WO 9811840 A	26-03-1998
			WO 9729709 A	21-08-1997
			WO 9729710 A	21-08-1997
			AU 710236 B	16-09-1999
			AU 1170297 A	01-08-1997
			EP 0944350 A	29-09-1999